



## Rural Development – Oregon

Business & Cooperative Programs

[www.RuralOregon.biz](http://www.RuralOregon.biz)

or

[www.rurdev.usda.gov/or/biz.htm](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/or/biz.htm)

1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Ste. 801  
Portland, OR 97232

Phone: (503) 414-3366

TDD: (503) 414-3387

Fax: (503) 414-3397

### USDA Rural Development's Business & Cooperative Programs

USDA Rural Development delivers a variety of assistance to rural businesses and communities. All of them work in financial partnership with local economic organizations – banks and lenders, economic development groups, local revolving loan funds, universities, cities, counties, tribes, and utility cooperatives. Several of the programs assist rural small business (including farmers & ranchers) directly.

USDA Program	Total Funds Available <i>estimate FY2009</i>	Purpose (What is the program's goal?)	Program Type (How does it work?)	Eligible Applicants (Who can apply?)	Eligible Areas (What is rural?)	Authorized Purposes (What can funds be used for?)	Typical Amount of Assistance	Rates & Terms (rates subject to change)	Key to Success	When to Apply
<b>B&amp;I Guarantee</b> Business & Industry Guaranteed Loan	<b>\$1.458 BB</b>  (\$19 MM Oregon allocation)	Provide an <u>incentive for business lending</u> that will <u>save &amp; create jobs</u> (typically for larger businesses)	USDA <u>guarantees</u> business loans made by banks	Banks and other commercial lenders who make loans to rural businesses	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	The loans guaranteed can be used for real estate, equipment, working capital, & refinancing – for nonfarm businesses	80% loan guarantees for loans of \$200,000 to \$5MM; 70% on loans up to \$10MM	Negotiated by business & lender. Fixed or variable rates, typically near Prime (No balloons)	<u>Lender-driven</u> : There must be a bank willing to make the loan. (USDA only guarantees the loan.) Business with strong equity & collateral.	Year round
<b>IRP</b> Intermediary Relending Program	<b>\$34 MM</b>  (No separate Oregon allocation)	Capitalize <u>locally-run revolving loan programs</u> for small businesses unable to qualify for bank financing	USDA loans money to a local revolving loan fund for relending to nonfarm businesses	Nonprofit economic development groups, tribes, & public bodies (e.g., cities) who will make loans to rural businesses	Unincorporated areas & ≤25,000 population cities	The loans must be used to set up a loan program to make business loans for real estate, equipment, working capital, & refinancing – for nonfarm businesses	\$300,000 - \$750,000 loans to re-lenders to make loans up to \$150,000 to businesses	1%, 30 years to re-lender ... to make loans at near-Prime to rural businesses	Funding is limited, so these loans tend to go only to loan funds that will serve the neediest areas.	Year round. Quarterly competition at national level
<b>RBEG</b> Rural Business Enterprise Grant	<b>\$44 MM</b>  (\$356,000 Oregon allocation)	Support economic development projects that will <u>assist specific small &amp; emerging private businesses</u>	USDA makes grants to local economic development groups to assist private business development	Nonprofit economic development groups, tribes, and public bodies (e.g., cities or counties)	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	The grant can be used to do a <u>feasibility study</u> , provide <u>technical assistance</u> to businesses, provide <u>job training</u> , set up a <u>revolving loan fund</u> , or develop <u>infrastructure</u> .	<\$25,000	Grant	Funding is limited, so these grants tend to go only to the neediest areas. Grant funds cannot be used for regional planning or business attraction projects.	Once-a-year. Annual competition at state level
<b>RBOG</b> Rural Business Opportunity Grant	<b>\$3 MM</b>  (No separate Oregon allocation)	Support <u>economic development planning</u>	USDA makes grants to support general economic growth & planning	Nonprofit economic development groups, tribes, and public bodies (e.g., cities or counties)	Unincorporated areas & <50,000 population cities	The grant can be used to do <u>regional planning</u> , <u>develop area economic strategies</u> , provide <u>technical assistance</u> to businesses, and develop local <u>leadership</u>	<\$50,000	Grant	Funding is limited, so these grants tend to go only for projects helping the neediest areas.	Once-a-year. Annual competition at national level
<b>SMPG</b> Small Minority Producer Grant	<b>\$1 MM</b>  (No separate Oregon allocation)	Foster business <u>success of coops of small, minority agricultural producers</u>	USDA makes grants for technical assistance projects	Coops with ≥75% women or minority membership assisting small, minority producers	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	The grant can be used for <u>feasibility or market studies</u> , <u>product improvement</u> , <u>training</u> or <u>legal</u> advice.	≤\$175,000	Grant	Preference for experience & projects that help the most farmers & smaller, poorer communities.	Once-a-year. Annual competition at national level
<b>VAPG</b> Value-Added Producer Grant	<b>\$19 MM</b>  (No separate Oregon allocation)	Support producers in <u>ventures that will increase the return on their agricultural commodities</u> .	USDA provides matching grants for value-added ventures	Farmers, ranchers, foresters, fishers – inc. coops, agricultural producer groups, & joint ventures	No rural area requirement.	Grants for planning or working capital to operate value-added ventures, including on-farm renewable energy. Minimum 1:1 match required.	≤\$100,000 (planning); ≤\$300,000 (working capital)	Grant	Application requirements are complex, so consult with USDA well in advance of application deadline.	Once-a-year. Annual competition at national level

Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."

(4/22/2009)

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<b>REAP Renewable Energy Grant</b>	<b>\$50 MM</b> (No separate Oregon allocation)	Financing for <u>renewable energy generation systems</u>	USDA makes grants to small rural businesses & farmers	Rural small businesses (using SBA definition) & agricultural producers	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	Grants for renewable energy systems (wind, biomass, biofuel, anaerobic digesters, solar, geothermal, & micro-hydro)	≤\$500,000 (not to exceed 25% of project cost).	Grant	Application requirements can be complex, so consult with USDA well in advance of application deadline.	Twice-a-year. Annual competition at national level
<b>REAP Energy Efficiency Grant</b>	Included in the above funding allocation	Financing for <u>energy efficiency improvements</u>	USDA makes grants to small rural businesses & farmers	Rural small businesses (using SBA definition) & agricultural producers	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	Grants for purchase & installation of business energy efficiency improvements	≤\$250,000 (not to exceed 25% of project cost). Priority is given for grants of ≤\$50,000	Grant	Application requirements can be complex, so consult with USDA well in advance of application deadline.	Twice-a-year. Annual competition at national level
<b>REAP Energy Guarantee</b> Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Guaranteed Loan	<b>\$205 MM</b> (No separate Oregon allocation)	Provide an <u>incentive for business lending</u> that will finance for <u>renewable energy generation systems or energy efficiency improvements</u>	USDA <u>guarantees</u> business loans made by banks to small businesses & agricultural producers	Banks and other commercial lenders who make loans to rural businesses	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	The loans guaranteed can be used for the purchase & installation of renewable energy systems or for energy efficiency improvements	85-60% loan guarantees on \$50,000 to \$25MM loans. (Total REAP funds can't exceed 75% of the project cost.)	Negotiated by business & lender. Fixed or variable rates, typically near Prime (No balloons)	<u>Lender-driven</u> : There must be a bank willing to make the loan that USDA guarantees. May be combined with a REAP grant,	Year round
<b>Section 9008 R&amp;D Grant</b> Biomass Research & Development	<b>\$18 MM estimate</b> (No separate Oregon allocation)	Support <u>research &amp; development</u> projects advancing <u>biomass-based fuels</u>	USDA makes R&D grants to researchers	National labs, federal & state research agencies, private firms, nonprofits, & consortiums of these.	No rural area requirement.	Grants for basic research or demonstration projects	<b>\$1 MM</b> grant maximum	Grant	Requires nonfederal matching ≥20% for research and ≥50% for demonstration projects. Focus is cellulosic biomass R&D.	Once-a-year. Annual competition at national level
<b>RED Loan</b> Rural Economic Development Loan	<b>\$33 MM</b> (No separate Oregon allocation)	Promote specific <u>community or business development projects</u> improving the local economy	USDA makes loans to certain utilities that are in turn re-loaned for local community or business projects	Electric & telephone utilities financed by USDA's Rural Utilities Service.	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	The RED Loan is reloaned by the coop to a nonfarm business for real estate & equipment.	<b>\$740,000</b> loan maximum	Loan is zero%, 10 years, which is in turn reloaned at zero%, 10 years.	Requires a community-oriented utility coop that is willing to borrow & relend on the project's behalf.	Year round. Quarterly competition at national level
<b>RED Grant</b> Rural Economic Development Grant	<b>none</b> (No separate Oregon allocation)	Promote specific <u>community development projects</u> to improve the rural economy	USDA makes grants to certain utilities to capitalize a revolving loan fund for community projects.	Electric & telephone utilities financed by USDA's Rural Utilities Service.	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	The RED Grant is used to set up a <u>revolving loan fund</u> . At first, loans must be for community facility, education or health care projects	<b>\$300,000</b> grant maximum	Grant. Loans from revolving loan fund must initially be reloaned at zero%; revolved funds are reloaned at ≤Prime.	Requires a community-oriented utility coop that is willing to oversee a loan fund. Requires 20% match.	Year round. Quarterly competition at national level
<b>RCDG</b> Rural Cooperative Development Grant	<b>\$4 MM</b> (No separate Oregon allocation)	Support centers to assist cooperatives	USDA makes grants to centers for rural cooperative development	Universities and nonprofit economic development groups	Areas outside the urbanized edge of cities of >50,000 population	Grants are used to operate Centers that assist rural cooperatives.	<b>\$250,000 – ≤\$300,000</b>	Grant	Funding is limited, so these grants tend to go only for projects helping the neediest areas.	Once-a-year. Annual competition at national level

More information on all of these programs at: <http://www.ruralOregon.biz> or contact us:

Oregon State Office	Portland	503-414-3366	Oregon Area Offices		
vacant, State Director			Northwest (Corvallis)	Bret Dixon, Area Director	<a href="mailto:bret.dixon@or.usda.gov">bret.dixon@or.usda.gov</a>
<b>Jeff Deiss, Program Director</b>	<a href="mailto:jeff.deiss@or.usda.gov">jeff.deiss@or.usda.gov</a>	503-414-3367		Tom Simonson, Specialist	<a href="mailto:tom.simonson@or.usda.gov">tom.simonson@or.usda.gov</a>
<b>Specialists:</b>			Southwest (Roseburg)	Clem Singer, Area Director	<a href="mailto:clem.singer@or.usda.gov">clem.singer@or.usda.gov</a>
Dan Streng	<a href="mailto:dan.streng@or.usda.gov">dan.streng@or.usda.gov</a>	503-414-3368		Deanna Quimby, Specialist	<a href="mailto:deanna.quimby@or.usda.gov">deanna.quimby@or.usda.gov</a>
Martin Zone	<a href="mailto:martin.zone@or.usda.gov">martin.zone@or.usda.gov</a>	503-414-3361	Central (Redmond)	Barrie LaSure, Area Director	<a href="mailto:barrie.lasure@or.usda.gov">barrie.lasure@or.usda.gov</a>
Julie Stedman	<a href="mailto:julie.stedman@or.usda.gov">julie.stedman@or.usda.gov</a>	503-414-3366		Curt Dixon, Specialist	<a href="mailto:curt.dixon@or.usda.gov">curt.dixon@or.usda.gov</a>
Paul Cormier	<a href="mailto:paul.cormier@or.usda.gov">paul.cormier@or.usda.gov</a>	503-414-3365	East (Pendleton)	Geri Steward, Area Director	<a href="mailto:geri.steward@or.usda.gov">geri.steward@or.usda.gov</a>
			(Pendleton)	Don Hollis, Specialist	<a href="mailto:don.hollis@or.usda.gov">don.hollis@or.usda.gov</a>
			(La Grande)	LaDonn McElligott	<a href="mailto:ladonn.mcelligott@or.usda.gov">ladonn.mcelligott@or.usda.gov</a>
					541-750-7163
					541-750-7051
					541-673-0136 x110
					541-673-0136 x4
					541-465-6443 x130
					541-923-4358 x125
					541-465-6443 x131
					541-278-8049 x129
					541-963-4178 x103